



I have to go change (clothes), uh... later

Her name is Laila. She is Noir's right hand man

What kind of thing is that to say?

And... I have a little investigating to do

She's like the older sister in this family-like home...

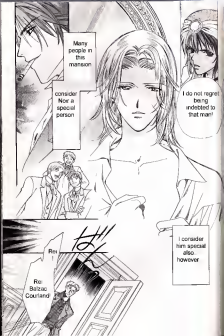
But uh...

But her cooking is terrible

That fellow Michel came and was eating that but is now all in bed

Noir likes my delicious cooking

Her outward appearance is cheerful and bright contrary to the misery of her past that Noir saved her from.



Many
people in
this
mansion

consider
Not a
special
person

I do not regret
being
indebted to
that man!

I consider
him special
also
however

Rei
Balzac
Courtland



Therefore I
would like
to know

Why would
you go to that
kind of place
and purposely
put yourself in
danger to
steal that
brooch?

His name is
Solomon Sugar
and he was with
the Paris police

He is now a private detective
and suspects Ren Balzac is the
third Noe

At last
night's
opera

the wife of
a diplo-
mat's
brooch
was stolen

Is that
what it
was?

Solomon?



I don't
know the
circum-
stances

but I can
guess.



Ren,
he --

What's
going on so
early in the
morning?

People at the scene of the crime described the suspicious lady in this

This...

That woman's characteristics are much different from Florian in a disguise...

This
This is me...

Hey, the drawing is poor...

Waaa! But the characteristics...

GET OUT!
I'll sue you for this insult!



I know the story of your family's past in Morocco...

I'll leave but...

HEY

when you were 10 years old.

Jet black hair covers uniquely toned skin and vivid green eyes. These traits make it difficult to discover where he is from.

Noir



There is
dangerous
balance
inside him

A darkness like
velvet that contains a
glimmer...

What is it?
Don't just
stand there,
Florian.

Sorry to
interrupt
your deep
thinking.

Sorry

These
are the
books
you
asked
for.

For some
reason or
other you've
taken a liking
to it.

Could you
put them
over there?





Even the daily bread was scarce. We have no choice but to live in those conditions.

She became seriously sick soon after and she died.

But,

finally, I've recovered it.

That man left for his new assignment in Morocco as the diplomat of France. Mother trusted him.

But that too was struck down to almost nothing.

I was just a child, no matter how much money I earned, it did not equal the savings of an adult.

When we were at the bottom of our luck,

mother sold her only memento of father so we would have money.

Who did mother sell the brooch to? I spent a lot of time searching for it.





You wear a
veil of
darkness,
don't you,
Nar?



I'm
sorry

I made you
listen to my
trivial senti-
mentality



Ah,
sure

If you don't
mind, I'd
like to see
it, too



Yet you still tremble
with sadness from
that childhood day
Did that evening
setting sun heal the
young Nar?

In the
depths of
the veil of
darkness

maybe you see the
evening setting sun of
Maghreb shine with
gold like the topaz

to be Continued **13**

Note: Maghreb - 3 countries: Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia grouped together or known as Maghreb.



How valuable is it?

Ha! Do you think I would make a mistake?

What do you think?

The topic branch



The jewel is certainly big but as far how much it's worth perhaps nothing



I wonder soup eat it before it gets cold

Oh well